II. AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A system for language-neutral ~~runtime~~ user interface automation, the system comprising:

a system executing a test, the system executing the test including a processor; and

a memory, the memory including:

automation script means for receiving an automation script for automating use of the user interface in a system under test by the system executing the test, wherein the system under test includes an application and wherein the interface may be in an arbitrary natural language; and

script translation means for intercepting a call from the automation script to a function simulating a user action on the application; wherein the interception includes accessing a database or file system that is independent from the system under test so that ~~protecting~~ the application's natural run-time execution is protected before, during and after the functional automation executes, retrieving a translated text string associated with the function call, and calling the function simulating the user action with the translated text string;

wherein the translation consists of converting to or from a first natural language to a second natural language.

2. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein the script translation means comprises:

message translation means for supplying translated text for the automation script's run time execution; and

selective text locator means coupled to the message translation means for selectively supplying appropriately translated text to the automation script's run time execution depending on the function call in a case that a same text string is translated differently based on context.

3. (Original) The system of claim 2, wherein the selective text locator means is arranged to selectively supply appropriate text to the automation script's run time execution depending on a resource ID of the function call.

4. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the script translation means comprises:

a library including a function having a same signature as the function call and which is arranged to retrieve the translated text string before the function call; and

one of:

a file referencing the library, the automation script being arranged to reference the file and the library, and

the library including the retrieval function and the function call, the library being arranged to be called by the automation script.

5. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the file referencing the library comprises an include file.

6. (Original) The system of claim 4, wherein the library including the retrieval function and the function call has the same name as a library containing the function called by the automation script.

11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, further comprising:

providing message translation means for supplying translated text for the automation script's run time execution; and

providing selective text locator means coupled to the message translation means,

wherein the step of retrieving comprises selectively supplying appropriately translated text by the selective text locator means to the automation script's run time execution depending on the function call in a case that a same text string is translated differently based on context.

12. (Original) The method of claim 11, wherein the selective text locator means selectively supplies appropriate text to the automation script's run time execution depending on a resource ID of the function call.

13. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the script translation means comprises:

a library including a function having a same signature as the function call and which is called to retrieve the translated text string before the function call; and

one of:

a file referencing the library, the automation script referencing the file and the library, and

the library including the retrieval function and the function call, the library being called by the automation script.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the file referencing the library comprises an include file.

15. (Original) The method of claim 13, wherein the library including the retrieval function and the function call has the same name as a library containing the function called by the automation script.

16. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the automation script comprises a Java™ script.

17. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the automation script uses the English language and the application uses a non-English language.

18. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface.

19. (Currently Amended) A program product stored on a computer readable storage medium, for language-neutral ~~runtime~~ user interface automation, comprising:

program code for providing an automation script for automating use of the user interface in a system under test by a system executing the test, wherein the system under test includes an application and wherein the interface may be in an arbitrary natural language;

program code for intercepting a call from the automation script to a function simulating a user action on the application; wherein the interception is performed by the system executing the test and includes accessing a database or file system that is independent from the system under

7. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the automation script comprises a Java™ script.

8. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the automation script is in the English language and the application is arranged to use a non-English language.

9. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein the user interface comprises a graphical user interface.

10. (Currently Amended) A method for language-neutral ~~runtime~~ user interface automation, the method comprising:

providing an automation script for automating use of the user interface in a system under test by a system executing the test, wherein the system under test includes an application and wherein the interface may be in an arbitrary natural language;

intercepting a call from the automation script to a function simulating a user action on the application; wherein the interception is performed by the system executing the test and includes accessing a database or file system that is independent from the system under test so that ~~while protecting~~ the application's natural run-time execution is protected before, during and after the functional automation executes,

retrieving a translated text string associated with the function call; wherein the translated text string has been converted to or from a first natural language to a second natural language; and

calling the function simulating the user action with the translated text string.

test so that ~~while protecting~~ the application's natural run-time execution is protected before, during and after the functional automation executes;

program code for retrieving a translated text string associated with the function call; wherein the translated text string has been converted to or from a first natural language to a second natural language; and

program code for calling the function simulating the user action with the translated text string.

20. (Previously Presented) The program product of claim 19, further comprising program code for:

providing message translation means for supplying translated text for the automation script's run time execution; and

providing selective text locator means coupled to the message translation means,

wherein the step of retrieving comprises selectively supplying appropriately translated text by the selective text locator means to the automation script's run time execution depending on the function call in a case that a same text string is translated differently based on context.